

FEBRUARY 16, 2004
REGULAR MEETING

Motion Passed.

CITY OF NORWAY
NORWAY, MICHIGAN

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APPROVE 04-033 A motion was made by Council Member Bal,
WASTEWATER supported by Council Member Hayes to approve
COST OF Wastewater - Cost of Service Study as presented
SERVICE and apply two-phase adjustment with first phase
STUDY being implemented with February billing and second
phase applied to July 2004 billing.

Yes: Bal, Dierkens, Hayes

Nays: Mason, Schultz

Motion Passed.

APPROVE 04-034 A motion was made by Council Member Bal,
POWER SYSTEM supported by Council Member Dierkens, and
ENGINEERING unanimously approved Power System Engineering
PROPOSAL Inc.'s proposal of \$3,516 for a wholesale power
Feasibility study.

PUBLIC Bob Carlsen
COMMENT Dave Mott

COUNCIL
COMMENT

Bal "I would like to address the people and the people out there watching on TV. The Council has sat down here over the last month and come up with a bunch of ideas of changes that we felt might be necessary things that we feel that management and the Council should be looking at basically to try to change things around save some money and being are main project or goal is to get back and put as much as we possible can into our street program which I think our main goal is to continue as much as we can every year. So these are some of the ideas that we have come up with. I'd like to bring them up so the people are aware that the Council is trying to do stuff. We want to work with everybody to try to meet these goals. This is our objective".

- * City Manager, Ray D. Anderson and Utilities Director, Karl Zueger were asked to take a freeze in wages for one year. City Manager and Utilities Director agreed.
- City Council will advise City Manager to instruct or talk to Police Chief that we will have 24 hour a day 7 days a week protection with the minimum amount of overtime and that all personnel will go on a rotating shift including the Chief and Sergeant. One person will be on duty meeting patrol at all times.

When two men are on duty it will be late afternoon or a midnight shift. There is no need to have officers in the building when we have someone manning the window meaning Louise or any other personnel. There is no need to have officers sitting around here.

- Three of the guns the M14 that were bought are going to be sold up for auction with the rest of the guns we have that are no longer in use.
- We would like to add one man to our street department to add versatility. It appears now we are so short handed that when someone calls in sick or takes vacation there is no one around to do anything.
- We are looking at possibly restructuring or to work so that we can get a B license on board for our wastewater plant, how we are going to go about that we don't know or have any idea yet but we are going to look at to either restructure it with other departments to try to get a man on board as a permanent employee.
- We are changing our TV System to have the TV guide on live TV, Channel 19 I believe, as of now. The internet and advertising announcements will be run by City personnel out of the City Hall. There is quite a substantial savings and the cost of the equipment is very minimal.
- I talked to Mr. Ray Anderson this morning and I asked him if he could get started on updating and getting some decisions on our street program. The survey we have is not right up to date but it isn't that old, there is a priority list out there so if he can get that and bring that up to date so we can possibly get a street or two picked out. We would like to get estimates out there on what we are looking for and how far we are going to go and get all are costs in order so come the end of budget time if we can swing a street or two all we need to do is put it out for bid. This way we can get this done the first thing this summer rather than waiting until September to get this stuff out and not being able to complete these projects by the end of the summer.

- I would also like to ask between Management and supervision that if there is some way we can get faster or better communication. It appears that when stuff comes up at the Council Meetings and action has to be taken on it that it will go from any where from one month to six weeks before it trickles down and gets to a Supervisor to get orders and get stuff back to us. These are things that I have noticed - my own ideas, there is lack of communication between Management and Supervision or our ideas of what we are implementing and by the time it gets to get facts and figures it seems like it takes weeks and months to get it to come down.
- Ray Anderson or staff, Karl or Ray to give us an update at every meeting of any project that is going on in the City of Norway. Any questions that have come to the Council that has arised I do not think we are asking too much for management or Karl or office staff to get the answer for us for the following meeting. Mainly say like the Hydro project going on right now. I think the Council is so far back on some of this stuff we do not know if we are 50%, 90% or 100% done. I would like to get more communication between Management and Council so that everybody has a much better understanding.

Bal "I have one situation that I have been involved in the last couple of weeks, which I haven't had no problem up until this time is people calling my house. I have been in town all my life, and I am not afraid to talk to anyone. But I am not going to talk to anyone anymore without them addressing me and giving me their name. If you want to talk to me I will talk to you about anything I will tell you anything I know about anything but the first thing you are going to have to do is give me your name. I will leave it at that. If I do not know who I am talking to I am not going to say a word anymore".

Mason Reviewing revenue and expenditure reports back to October. The police department, sewer and electric department have high figures in overtime. "This is why I feel we can cut cost in the budget rather than raising rates". Why is some of this overtime so high for January?

Dierkens - "George covered most everything I had to say. Police Department having two men on all day is costing the City \$142,600 a year minimum. I think we should have one guy on during the day rotation and eliminate some of the overtime. City cannot afford this just to have two men working all day. Time we do something about it. George did mention most everything I had to say".

Hayes "I have lots of comments but I will withhold Until next meeting. All your suggestions should be considered and that they should be proposed and that they should be voted on by the Council and not merely a directive from the Mayor".

Bal "Everything I have said excluding the last three things the Council are all well aware of everything I have mentioned here. I read to you over the phone. I asked you if you had any questions, comments or suggestions and to get back to me. There is no one sitting on this board that can say they did not know what is going on".

Hayes "My point was is that you cannot make directives and say that this is what the City must do you can make I think you can make proposals and the Council can vote on it but everyone has one vote and you cannot make directives and say this is what is going to be done. You can say this is what I would like to see but as far as getting anything done specifically you still need three votes of the Council".

Bal "I don't think there is anyone on the Council that thinks this is an order to Mr. Anderson. No body sitting here is taken it ...this is suggestions to Mr. Anderson, we are suggesting that he looks in and tries to do something with what I have read off here, that is all it was. It is not an order it is not intended to be an order and we know we cannot give Mr. Anderson an order. It is not a directive it is suggestions plainly and that is all".

Bal "Bobby to address some of your things that you come up with I am kind of hurt by allot of the items that you brought up here. I would think better than half of the items that you brought to the attention here was no choice of this Council.

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This Council has been faced with allot of decisions and I appreciate the fact that you brought them to attention. There is allot of hard decisions that have been put off that should have been made years and years and years ago. Not by this Council, this Council is having one hell of a time making decisions that we had to make in three months that we've been in office. I will grant you one thing if I knew that this job was going to come to what it is today there is no way that you would see me sitting in this place that I am. I think you are blaming us for a lot of things that we did not have no control over".

CITIZEN
COMMENT

Bob Carlsen

Hayes - "Commend the administration on the fine proposal they gave us on the rate increase on the water and sewer rates and I am surprised that two Council members would vote against it particularly since there would be an immediate drop in rates for those people who use the least amount".

RECESS 04-035 A motion was made by Council Member Mason,
REGULAR supported by Council Member Bal and unanimously
MEETING approved to recess regular meeting and enter into
ENTER INTO Executive Session to discuss Personnel - Contract
EXECUTIVE Negotiations at 8:37 p.m.
SESSION

CLOSE 04-036 A motion was made by Council Member Mason
EXECUTIVE supported by Council Member Dierkens and
SESSION AND unanimously approved to close Executive Session
ENTER BACK and enter back into Regular Session at 9:20 p.m.
INTO REGULAR
SESSION

ADJOURN 04-037 A motion was made by Council Member Dierkens
supported by Council Member Mason and
unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at
9:22 p.m.

George Bal, Mayor

Ray Anderson, City Manager/Clerk